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EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA 92244-2766TO: AG MARKETING SERVICE, USDA DATE: 3/10/03FROM: **Jon Vessey**

Number of pages, including this cover page: \_\_\_\_\_ pages

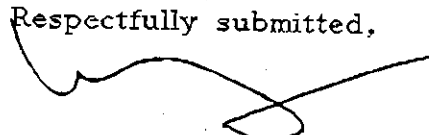
RE: COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELING RECORD KEEPING SYSTEMDOCKET LS-02-13 REVISED COPY OF FAX

I am a 3rd generation family farm. We are growers and shippers of California Vegetables. It is my position that there is currently sufficient documentation in place throughout the distribution system to permit a proper and verifiable audit.

Country of Origin Labeling is important to preserve the family farm....  
**CONSUMERS HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW!**

While I strongly support Country of Origin Labeling, I firmly believe that most, if not all, the necessary documentation is in place to ensure compliance. Duplicating record keeping will not result in a more efficient audit verification system. Existing regulations administered by the PACA or U.S. labeling requirements on imported fresh produce should be sufficient to carry out any audit needed to verify country of origin.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jon Vessey  
Vessey and Company, Inc.  
El Centro, Calif.